Attorney Docket No. A-67984/RFT/TAL

STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of CHANG et al.

Examiner:

Group No.:

MAY 0 7 2001

Serial No. 09/500,376

Fields, I.

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Filed: February 8, 2000

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I hereby certify that this correspondence (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is, on the date shown below, being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed March 28, 2001 in the above-referenced case, imposing a restriction requirement with respect to Claims 1 through 36 in the application, Applicants respectfully request consideration of their previous Preliminary Amendment mailed to the U.S. PTO on September 28, 2000. Applicants' earlier-filed preliminary amendment canceled Claims 1-36 and added new claims 37-55 and would appear to obviate the Examiner's proposed restriction. An additional copy this Preliminary Amendment is attached hereto for the Examiner's convenience.

If a telephone call will help expedite any aspect of the prosecution of the instant application the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at 415-781-1989, or by facsimile at 415-398-3249.

Respectfully submitted,

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